



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

A3275-2
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 9, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 4 totaled an estimated 18.2 billion ton-miles, 14.0 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative traffic volume for the first 31 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 550.3 billion ton-miles, 15.2 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended August 4 totaled 405,383, up 11.3 percent from last year, but 0.2 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 23.3 percent in the East, 6.1 percent in the South and 7.1 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 12 of the 21 commodity groups showed increases, with coal loadings, which continue to reflect the effect of heavy stockpiling, up 26,600 cars (25.8 percent), and loadings of metallic ores up 3,425 cars (21.9 percent). Twelve of the 21 groups showed decreases from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 28 totaled 51,928 cars, up 9.6 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 89,253 trailers and/or containers, 9.6 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 30 weeks of the year was 1,511,079 cars, 16.5 percent higher than last year, and 2,612,879 trailers and/or containers, up 16.7 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 8/4/84:

	Loadings in Week ended August 4, 1984			Change from Corresponding Week 1983		Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars			Cars	Percent	Cars	Percent
Grain	26,921	D		1,283	4.5	I	1,817 6.7
Other farm products	2,549	D		1,075	29.7	D	394 15.5
Metallic ores	19,079	I		3,425	21.9	D	587 3.1
Coal	129,735	I		26,600	25.8	I	130 0.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	12,612	I		1,246	11.0	D	399 3.2
Nonmetallic minerals	12,783	I		596	4.9	D	108 0.8
Grain mill products	10,392	D		1,028	9.0	I	587 5.6
Food and kindred products	10,924	D		608	5.3	I	318 2.9
Primary forest products	12,859	D		1,341	9.4	D	1,235 9.6
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,312	I		230	3.2	I	21 0.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,938	D		187	1.2	I	292 2.0
Chemicals and allied products	23,732	I		1,072	4.7	D	10 0.0
Petroleum products	4,637	D		98	2.1	D	247 5.3
Stone, clay and glass products	11,272	I		369	3.4	I	50 0.4
Coke	5,185	D		11	0.2	I	433 8.4
Metals and products	9,018	I		2,042	29.3	D	381 4.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	16,347	I		2,671	19.5	D	1,400 8.6
Waste and scrap materials	8,663	I		1,072	14.1	D	214 2.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,874	I		127	1.6	I	520 6.6
All other carloads	58,425	I		7,386	14.5	D	70 0.1
LCL traffic	126	D		147	53.8	D	7 5.6
Total Cars Loaded	405,383	I		41,058	11.3	D	884 0.2

Corresponding week of 1983

364,325

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Total Cars Loaded (31 weeks)	12,206,479	10,917,141	I 11.8

Estimated revenue ton-miles
(in billions):

30 weeks ended July 28	532.2	461.7	I 15.3
Week ended August 4	18.2	15.9	I 14.0
31 weeks cumulative	550.3	477.7	I 15.2